01-03-2010 George Street Normal School reflection

Today was a great day for seeing English and Maths in action. I saw so many things we learnt in lectures being applied to a classroom setting. Activities such as shared reading, guided reading and individual reading (S.Q.U.I.R.T) were used throughout the day.

Children did story writing (draw a picture plan and write a sentence underneath). New entrant children struggle a lot with spellings of words and sounds of letters. One thing I have learnt from today is that I need to practice pronouncing the sounds of letters when breaking down words to help children understand. Children also struggle with sentence structure e.g. “my jacket is for raining” rather than saying, “My jacket is for when it’s raining”.

I liked seeing the computer based learning program for spelling and language. Children thrived on having interactive learning time. This was conveniently done after lunch time when it suited the mood of the class. It’s interesting to note that children seem very tired after lunch; it was far harder to keep their attention and keep them on task.

Goal set from today: improve on pronouncing letter sounds when breaking down words.